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courage is contagious

Viewing cable 06BOGOTA4686, DRUMMOND COAL STRIKE

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#06BOGOTA4686**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
06BOGOTA4686	2006-05-26 13:51	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy Bogota

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.elspectador.com/wikileaks>

VZCZCXYZ0015
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHBO #4686/01 1461351
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 261351Z MAY 06
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5283
INFO RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 7755
RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ MAY LIMA 3804
RUEHQ/AMEMBASSY QUITO 4443
RUEHGL/AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL 3564
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 1354

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 004686

SIPDIS

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/24/2016
TAGS: [ETRD](#) [ELAB](#) [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [CO](#)
SUBJECT: DRUMMOND COAL STRIKE

REF: BOGOTA 4537

Classified By: Milton K. Drucker. Reasons: 1.4 (b) & (d)

SUMMARY

[¶1.](#) (C) On May 22, approximately 4,000 coal workers from Drummond, Inc. in Cesar Department began to strike (reftel), joining 300 workers already

UNION EXPLAINS DEMANDS

[¶12.](#) (C) On May 22, Laboff met with XXXXXXXXXXXX of Energy Workers (FUNTRAENERGETICA), who explained the demands of striking workers at Drummond, Inc. FUNTRAENERGETICA is an energy sector trade federation that

FEAR OF "STRIKE BREAKING"

[¶13.](#) (C) XXXXXXXXXXXX explained that Glencore was bringing in outside personnel under military escort to replace the striking workers, and expressed

DRUMMOND WILLING TO NEGOTIATE, BUT "WITHIN REASON"

[¶14.](#) (C) On May 23, the Deputy Chief of Mission met with XXXXXXXXXXXX of Drummond's Colombian operations, who called the union's demands "unreasonable".

[¶15.](#) (C) XXXXXXXXXXXX said SINTRAMINENERGETICA was capitalizing on the May 28 Presidential election, and explained Drummond would return to negotiations.

[¶16.](#) (C) XXXXXXXXXXXX agreed with FUNTRAENERGETICA'S allegation that Glencore was using temporary personnel with military assistance, saying Glencore

DRUMMOND FACING SEVERE FINANCIAL LOSSES

[¶17.](#) (C) Although XXXXXXXXXXXX said Drummond was not yet "deeply concerned" over the strike, the company, its contractors, and the national economy are in

WOOD